

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 03321 130740Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /030 W
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R 130539Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5314
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 3321

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP, EAIR, BENC, ECRE, EIND, EQIP, ETEL, TC
SUBJ: FUJAIRAH AIRPORT: EARLY WARNING

SUMMARY: TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FUJAIRAH AIRPORT,
WHICH WILL HAVE ONE TEN THOUSAND FOOT RUNWAY WILL BE
ISSUED BY THE UAE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS ON JANUARY 15,
1977. END SUMMARY.

1. RULER OF FUJAIRAH TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT THE NEW
AIRPORT TO BE BUILT IN FUJAIRAH WILL HAVE ONE TEN-
THOUSAND-FOOT RUNWAY WHICH MAY BE LENGTHENED TO TWELVE
THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FEET. RULER STATED THAT AIRPORT
WILL BE JOINT MILITARY-CIVIL FIELD. AIRPORT WAS DESIGNED
BY "CANADIAN AIR SERVICES". ACCORDING TO RULER OF FU-
JAIRAH, FUNDING OF THE FIELD WILL COME FROM "THE
PRIVATE PURSE" OF SHAIKH ZAYID, RULER OF ABU DHABI
AND NEWLY RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE UAE.

2. SHAIKH HAMAD, THE RULER OF FUJAIRAH, ALSO WISHES TO
PROMOTE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PROJECT NAMED "GARDEN
CITY" TO PROMOTE TOURISM. THE PROJECT, WHICH HAS BEEN
DESIGNED BUT NOT BUILT, CONSISTS OF A COLLECTION OF
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VILLAS LOCATED ABOUT A LAGOON WHICH MIGHT BE ASSOCIATED

WITH A MARINA AND A HOTEL. THE RULER HAS NOT YET BEEN
ABLE TO FIND ANY FIRM WILLING TO UNDERTAKE THE PROJECT.
THE RULER HOPES THAT THE PROJECT WOULD SEEM SUFFICIENTLY
PROFITABLE THAT SOME FOREIGN FIRM WOULD BE WILLING TO
BUILD THE PROJECT WITH ITS OWN FUNDS--OR AT LEAST FIND
FINANCING--AND OPERATE THE GARDEN CITY OF ORDINARY
COMMERCIAL LINES. HE INDICATED THAT THE MIGHT WISH TO
LINK CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT TO CONSTRUCTION OF
"GARDEN CITY", IF SHAIKH ZAYID CONCURS. IF, HOWEVER, HE
DOES NOT AGREE, THEN SHAIKH HAMAD INTENDS TO PUSH THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT AS HE FEELS THE AIRPORT
IS NECESSARY FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FUJAIRAH.
DICKMAN

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